



South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

Office of the Commissioner Government House
Stanley Falkland Islands

Stanley, May 2024

Dear Applicant,

We're anticipating another busy season and need your collaboration to ensure that your visit goes well.

The dropbox file has been updated for 2024/25 and contains a wealth of resources which will help to ensure your visit to South Georgia is successful – this includes updates to essential visitor information documentation, biosecurity requirements and reporting forms. Please take your time to review the documents carefully as many have been updated. I have pulled out some of the key items for the 2024/25 visitor season below.

Stanley Biosecurity Searches: For the 2024/25 season we will be implementing our risk-based approach for biosecurity dog searches in Stanley with a small change from last season. Expedition vessels are proving lower risk for rodents than other vessel types, so our dog team will be changing the way they search your vessels. On your first call to Stanley, a search will be arranged as normal. After this we will only require a search every 3rd visit or every 6 weeks (whichever comes first) after that.

Closed Sites: Prion Island will remain closed this season due to the disrepair of the boardwalk. Cooper Bay Chinstraps are closed; however, the other Cooper Bay sites will remain open.

90 day application deadline: All application types are now subject to a 90 day submission period. A sliding scale of late charges have been introduced for any applications submitted less than 90 days until the visit and we cannot guarantee that your permit will be processed in time if submitted late (please see the fees and charges section of the *Visiting South Georgia Handbook* for details).

Bird Flu Response: Following lesson's learned last season we have moved to an activity-based approach to Bird Flu. Please read this section in our Biosecurity Handbook carefully. Please ensure that you understand the enhanced biosecurity measures, as these must be adhered to. Please also report all instances of bird flu to Government Officers as we will be sharing weekly updates with all upcoming and on-going visitors.

Looking forward to another busy season. As always, if you have any questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'D Blake'.

Denise Blake
Visitor Manager
Government of South Georgia & the South Sandwich Islands

2024-25 Visit Permit Holder Drive contents:

01 Read Me First

- Welcome Letter (this)
- GSGSSI Permit Holder Briefing
- Visiting South Georgia

02 Information and Biosecurity Documents & Declarations

- Visit Permit Holder Landing Declarations
- Biosecurity Checklist
- Biosecurity Handbook
- Visitor Biosecurity Self Audit Declaration
- Rodent Monitoring Station Protocol
- HOV-ROV policy
- Information for Yachts

03 Visitor Briefing Films

- South Georgia – A Visitor’s Guide
- Subtitles Folder
 - Track 1 – English Subtitles
 - Track 2 – Spanish Subtitles
 - Track 3 – German Subtitles
 - Track 4 – French Subtitles
 - Track 5 – Mandarin Subtitles

04 Visitor Site Guides & Extended Walks

- Grytviken
- Cape Rosa
- Cooper Bay (macaroni colony)
- Fortuna (Whistle Cove)
- Godthul
- Godthul to Sandebugten Extended walk
- Gold Harbour & Extended Walk
- Maiviken Extended Walk
- Ocean Harbour Extended Walk
- Prion Island (restricted site)
- Rookery Point Extended Walk
- Salisbury Plain
- Shackleton Walk
- St Andrews Bay
- Stromness to Leith Extended Walk
- gpx files for Extended Walks

05 Bird Strike and Post Visit Reports

- Bird Strike Report form

- Completing Bird Strike Report form notes
- Post-Visit Report form
- Completing Post-Visit Report notes
- Dive Record & Report (HOV-ROV)
- Happy Whale

06 Grytviken Arrival Information

- Grytviken Visitor Map
- Grytviken Site Guide